



Sugar Land Today

December 2004 - January 2005

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New City Hall Now Open for Business

Sugar Land City Hall opened Monday, Nov. 22 at its new Town Square location, 2700 Town Center Boulevard North.

After raising the U. S. flag, the doors opened to the community. "City employees are privileged to work in this beautiful building and have a responsibility to continue to provide the public our highest level of customer service," said City Manager Allen Bogard.

The community-wide dedication is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 7, 2005. Residents are invited to participate in building tours, entertainment and the dedication ceremony. (See page 3.)

"One of the new City Hall's assets is that it brings our customer services functions—Permits and Payments—back together in one location," Bogard said. "They are conveniently located on the first floor, which was designed to be very open and welcoming to the public."



Sugar Land resident Ella B. Reynolds was the first customer at the new Revenue window on Nov. 22. She was assisted by Susie Calvino, Revenue collection teller.

Visit the Payments window to pay your water bill or start new service and to make property tax payments. Contractors and residents will now handle their development and construction needs here as well. Development Services was formerly located at 123 Brooks Street. The new Permits phone number is 281-275-2270.

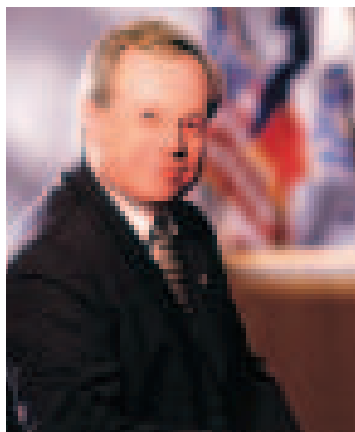
The City Council Chamber, conference rooms and City Secretary are also conveniently located on the first floor.

"New features of the City Council Chamber are an increase in seating and improved lighting, improved sound and cameras for viewing meetings on the Web site and SLtv 16. We invite Sugar Land

continue City Hall page 3



DEAR RESIDENTS



Allen Bogard
City Manager

As Sugar Land continues to experience rapid growth, we remain committed to improving mobility through the expansion of our existing roadways. The construction of these projects creates challenges, but I know you'll agree that the end result is worth the hassle along the way.

As part of the U.S. Highway 59 expansion from U.S. Highway 90A to State Highway 6, we have increased the number of lanes on the freeway, added capacity to most of the major intersections under the freeway and added continuous feeder lanes. In addition, significant improvements have been made to University Boulevard, West Airport Boulevard, West Bellfort Avenue, Dairy Ashford Road and Eldridge Road. When practical, left-turn lanes were constructed to improve traffic on streets like Lexington Boulevard, Sweetwater Boulevard and Dulles

Avenue. These projects are part of an ongoing process that began in earnest after our last large annexation, which occurred in 1997.

This year, the Texas Department of Transportation embarks on more ambitious projects – the expansion of U.S. 59 to the Grand Parkway, U.S. 90A through Sugar Land and State Highway 6 from First Colony Boulevard to U.S. 90A. The State Highway 6 expansion will include an overpass for University Boulevard, as well as U.S. 90A and the railroad tracks. These projects build on previous highway projects and culminate a process that began approximately eight years ago.

Our City resources, including traffic management, public safety and communications, will remain focused on making these improvements as painless as possible, but some inconvenience is unavoidable. We're also working with TxDOT to minimize delays. For example, incentives have been included to ensure construction is completed as soon as possible.

Our approach toward mobility projects has always been to build partnerships, particularly with TxDOT. Communities like Sugar Land that partner with TxDOT are well positioned to effectively move forward with much needed highway projects. This approach was successfully utilized during the first U.S. 59 expansion through Sugar Land. In addition to TxDOT, we have successfully partnered with Fort Bend County on many of the projects listed above, and House Majority Leader Tom DeLay was instrumental in securing

the necessary funding to enable the expansion of U.S. 59 to the Grand Parkway.

As you're driving through Sugar Land during the next few years, remember that our goal is to provide for improved traffic flow as we continue to manage growth that has made Sugar Land one of the fastest growing and economically viable cities in Texas.

Sincerely,
Allen Bogard



Increased capacity at the busy intersection of U.S. 59 at State Highway 6 looking south was the result of expansion completed in 2003.

SUGAR LAND GOALS 2004-2009

A well planned community
Safest city in the area
Strong local economy
Responsible city government
Mobility for people
Livable neighborhoods

CITY COUNCIL

David G. Wallace
Mayor

Thomas Abraham
At-Large Position One

Daniel O. Wong
At-Large Position Two

Dennis C. Parmer
Single Member District One

Cyril Hosley
Single Member District Two
Mayor Pro Tem

Russell C. Jones
Single Member District Three

Michael S. Schiff
Single Member District Four

CITY MANAGEMENT

Allen Bogard
City Manager

David Ellison
Assistant City Manager

Paul A. Hofmann
Assistant City Manager

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City Hall from page 1

residents to attend Council meetings, which are held on the first, third and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 5:30 p.m.," Bogard said.

"City Council meetings are one way residents can understand and take part in their City government."

Upper floors of the new City Hall have secured access. Visitors must check in with the first floor receptionist and a City staff member will meet with them there.

The north side of the building opens to Town Square Plaza, which serves as a community gathering place and is also used for celebrations and other special events.

To visit the new building at 2700 Town Center Boulevard North, use visitor parking on the south side. Handicapped access is also located here. Parking is reserved for City Hall use Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. and is available for Town

A GRAND DEDICATION

Please join us on Friday, Jan. 7, 2005 as we dedicate your new City Hall. Tour City Hall and stay for the fireworks:

3:00 - 5:00 pm: Tour your new City Hall

5:00 pm: Enjoy live entertainment

5:30 pm: Formal dedication with fireworks display

6:45 pm: Tours continue

Square public parking during off hours.

Most City services will be available at the new address. However, Police, Fire, Sugar Land Regional Airport, Parks and

Recreation, Public Works and Municipal Court will remain at their current addresses. Have questions about phone numbers and mailing addresses? Call 281-275-2700.

Sugar Land has a New Look

Sugar Land City Council has approved a new logo that will gradually replace the City's old logo. Minimal cost will be incurred with the transition to the new logo, as the change will occur during the normal replacement cycle of City assets and inventory.

The new logo focuses on the two dominant elements in Sugar Land's seal—a star and crown—which appear frequently throughout the City on

buildings, signs and police uniforms.

The star and crown also are extensively integrated into the aesthetic architecture of Sugar Land's section of U.S. Highway 59.

The new logo offers a consistent, fresh image for the City of Sugar Land, respecting our past while portraying the dynamic



nature of our community. Since our previous logo was adopted in 1990, Sugar Land has experienced rapid growth and change. The time was right to

re-evaluate our City logo, and City Council approved moving forward.

The new design will be used for all printed materials, such as forms, stationery

and business cards, publications, city vehicles, uniforms and promotional materials (i.e., shirts, hats, mugs, pens, etc.).

City Council also approved a policy providing guidelines for the use of the logo and seal. The intention of the policy is to ensure a professional, consistent use of the logo and seal.

As the symbols of our identity, the City seal and logo deserve the same care and protection provided any municipal asset.



At an October City Council meeting, Mayor David G. Wallace (right) inducted new City board and commission members. They will serve with other members whose terms continue on one of nine boards and commissions. The City benefits from engaging residents' participation on the boards and commissions through their interest, judgment and commitment to connecting with City government. For more information, visit www.sugarlandtx.gov and click on Government, then on Boards and Commissions.



GOVERNMENT

Land Use Plan Updated

Sugar Land has just completed updating the Land Use Plan, a document that provides the City Council's guidance for future land development and the City's physical form.

The process of updating the plan began in summer 2003 when the long range planning staff began preparing the base information, facilitating considerable public input and making recommendations. The Planning and Zoning Commission and staff worked to incorporate input from a wide array of interests, including property owners and homeowners. Among the considerations were broad public interests such as economic development and future infrastructure needs.

The Planning and Zoning Commission forwarded its recommendation to City Council in August 2004 and Council approved the plan in November 2004. It will now be used in the review and analysis of future development proposals, and it will form the basis of assumptions in the City's future studies and infrastructure plans.

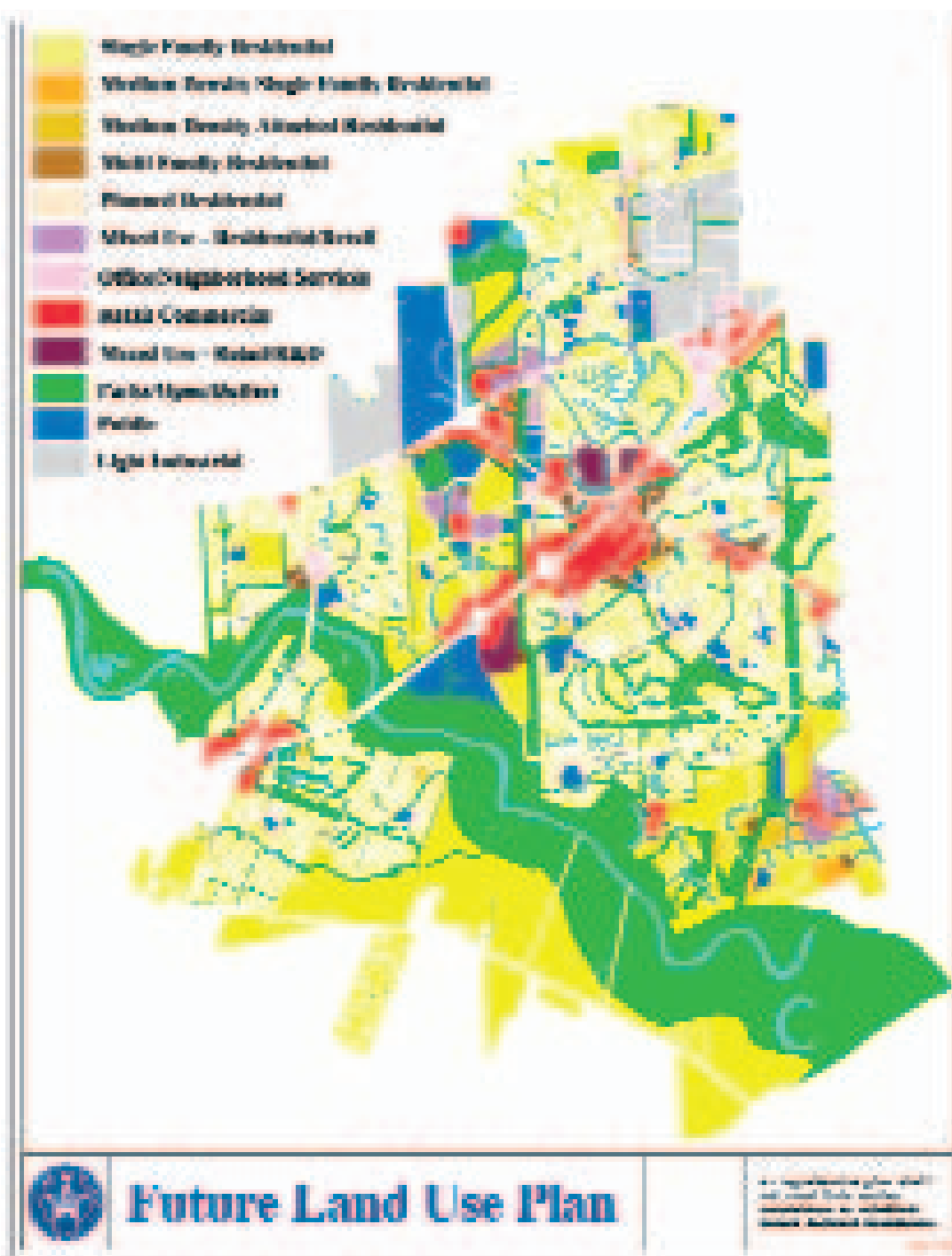
Several areas have been identified to receive special attention and focus, especially the area between Voss Road, State Highway 6, Burney Road and U.S. Highway 90A. Most of the 1000-acre tract remains vacant, but development is expected in the near future.

"Current residents and property owners in the vicinity will be impacted by future development in this area. We want them to know that Sugar Land's vision for the development

of that area will be beneficial to the community," said Sabine Somers- Kuenzel, City planner. "The year-plus examination of the City's Land Use Plan has resulted in intelligent

development guidelines for this area and others that are the result of considerable public input."

Contact longrangeplanning@sugarlandtx.gov with any questions.



Saving Lives in the Sky

Local media helicopters fly over Sugar Land to report on rush hour traffic conditions. But when you see a red, grey and white Memorial Hermann Life Flight helicopter above you, an emergency may be unfolding for a Sugar Land resident: a child unresponsive after falling from a tree, a young father badly injured in a car wreck or a senior having a heart attack at home. A skilled Memorial Hermann Life Flight team is on the scene within minutes.

Memorial Hermann Hospital Life Flight, the first air ambulance to serve the Houston area, established a base of operations at Sugar Land Regional Airport in the summer of 2002. With three area Memorial Hermann facilities—Fort Bend, Southwest

and Katy—the hospital system determined that a Sugar Land base for its emergency air ambulance would better serve its southwest community.

“But we couldn’t have established this critical service at the Sugar Land Airport without the help of the City and without the support of the Sugar Land community,” said Andy Faletto, aviation director for Memorial Hermann. “They made it possible.”

The Life Flight helicopter that services Sugar Land is one of three in the Memorial Hermann Hospital System’s emergency services division. The helicopters can sustain speeds up to 150 mph and respond to calls within a 150-mile radius. Each can carry two patients, a pilot, a paramedic, a flight nurse



Sugar Land’s Life Flight support team joins Airport staff (from left to right) Tim Welch, paramedic; Jodie Bienek, Airport services manager; Paul McMillin, paramedic; Mary Salinas, paramedic; Steve Kardos, pilot; and Andy Faletto, aviation director for Memorial Hermann Hospital System.

and vital medical equipment. Life Flight nurses and paramedics are specially trained to provide expert medical care in a helicopter, an environment that presents challenges distinctly different from a ground ambulance.

“Since Life Flight’s arrival in Sugar Land, it has averaged two to three flights a day, usually arriving on scene in 15 minutes or less,” Faletto said. Responding to calls around the clock, most patients are delivered to Memorial Hermann Hospital’s level one trauma center in the Texas Medical Center. However, when weather patterns or medical needs dictate, patients can be transported to John Sealy Hospital’s level one trauma center in Galveston.

As a second responder, Life Flight receives its calls for help from the 9-1-1 emergency system. Upon direction from a first responder such as Sugar Land Police or Fire department personnel, a Life Flight helicopter may be spotted sitting in front of a house on a residential street or temporarily parked in a nearby vacant lot.

“Life Flight is exactly what the name describes, and the capacity of this service to save lives continues to be tremendous. It’s an amazing service that works because of the dedication of a lot of skilled, caring people working and communicating together,” Faletto said. “Sugar Land’s first responders are an essential group of qualified professionals who make the system work well here.”

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



Sugar Land City Councilmember Russell Jones (second from right) stands with international dignitaries at the Consulate Breakfast held Oct. 5 at the Marriott in Town Square. Because of national and international interest in our community, Sugar Land’s Economic Development Department sponsored the event to inform consulates about continued opportunities for growth and developing partnerships between U.S. companies and businesses in their respective nations.



SAFETY

Fire Safety Tips for the Holidays

The year-end holiday season— Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and New Year's Eve—is a prime time for residential fires. Increased use of decorative lights, extension cords and candles, along with parties where people smoke and drink, all increase the likelihood of a fire. The following tips can help you have a safe holiday season.

Choose Safe Toys

Avoid toys that are made of highly flammable materials, and be sure that all electric toys carry the label of an independent testing laboratory.



Christmas Trees

If you choose a real Christmas tree, choose a freshly cut tree. If you're not cutting the tree yourself, make sure the tree isn't shedding its needles. Cut the trunk at an angle and

install the tree in a deep sturdy stand away from heat sources. **MAKE SURE THE TREE HAS A CONSTANT SUPPLY OF WATER.** Be sure any artificial trees are flame-retardant.

Fireplaces

Have your chimney inspected and cleaned once a year. Always use a fire screen and burn only material appropriate for fireplaces.

Holiday Lights

Inspect lights and throw away light sets with cracked or frayed cords or loose or damaged sockets. Make sure extension cords are not pinched by furniture. Unplug them when you leave or go to bed.

Fireworks

Fireworks are illegal in the City and dangerous. So, leave it to the experts, and attend a professional display.

Enroll Now in Citizens Police Academy

Have you ever wondered what it's like to search a building, conduct a traffic stop or look for case-solving clues at a crime scene? Find out at the next Sugar Land Police Department Citizens Police Academy. The next session begins Thursday, Jan. 20, 2005 and runs through April 15, 2005.

The free program consists of classroom and hands-on instruction and will provide participants with a working knowledge of the Sugar Land Police Department, its personnel and the emergency management operations.

Participants will become more familiar with the challenges faced by police

officers along with learning more about the law, the judicial system and

other pertinent topics.

Participants must be at least 18 years old and either live or work in Sugar Land. Applications must be received by 5 p.m. on Jan. 17 in order to enroll in the class.

Applications are available from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Police and Municipal Court Facility located at 1200 Highway 6 or online at www.sugarlandtx.gov. Click on Police on the lower left, then on Programs to find Citizen Police Academy.

Call 281-275-2575 for more information.



Mary Jayne Herbig, crime scene investigator with Sugar Land Police (right), shows Citizens Police Academy participants how to use a poly light for trace evidence from a mock crime scene.

Be a Smart Shopper All Year Long

Sugar Land residents who enjoy the holidays need to be aware that criminals also like them. Expensive gifts in homes and extra cash in wallets are among the temptations to law breakers. These tips will help you be aware and alert during the holidays and throughout the year.

Before You Leave Home

- Plan your shopping trip carefully. Know where you are going and what routes you will take to get there.
- If possible, arrange for a companion to go with you. There is safety in numbers.
- Let someone know where you are going and what route you are taking. Additionally, let them know when you expect to return.

When You Are Driving

- Keep all your doors locked at all times.
- Choose a well-lit and traveled route even if you believe it is out of your way.
- Never allow your fuel tank to become less than half full.
- Never pick up hitchhikers.
- Do not stop to help strangers. Call the police to assist them.
- Avoid confrontations with strangers or with others who might seek to follow you to continue the confrontation.

When You Park Your Car

- Park in a well-lit area.
- If you are parking during the day and returning to

your car after dark, check for street and building lights.

- ALWAYS lock all your doors.
- Remove all electronic items, such as calculators, radar detectors, and all packages from your car. Place them in the trunk or glove compartment, out of sight.
- Avoid parking near vans or other vehicles with covered cargo areas.
- Look around the parking lot for suspicious persons before you get out of your car.
- Avoid carrying large handbags. Carry only what is necessary.
- Shop in groups whenever possible. Use the "buddy system."
- Don't get out of your car until you are ready. If you don't feel safe, stay in the car or drive away.

When You Return to Your Car

- Never leave the store with your arms full of packages.
- Use a courtesy cart.
- Have your car key in hand, ready to unlock your door.
- Check the parking lot for suspicious people and look around before you exit the store.
- If you feel unsafe, always ask the store security to assist you to your car.
- If you are parked near a van or other vehicle with a covered cargo area, it is a good idea to return to the store and ask a security officer to accompany you.



Shop smart and stay safe.

- Check underneath, in front and in back of your car before you enter it.
- Check the front and rear passenger seats inside your car before you enter it.
- Place all packages in the trunk compartment and out of sight.

When You Are Returning Home

- Frequently check your rearview mirror to see if you are being followed. If you feel like you are being followed, DO NOT go home. Drive to the nearest police station, fire station or other place of safety.
- Use your cell phone, if you have one, to call the police. Try to obtain a license plate number, how many people are in the car and a good description of the car that you believe is following you.

If Your Car Breaks Down

- If you are off the road-way, raise the hood of your

vehicle then get back into your car and lock the doors.

- If you have a cell phone, call for help.
- If a stranger stops, lower the window only enough to allow you to request that they contact the police for you. REFUSE ALL OTHER HELP.
- If someone tries to force their way into your car, turn on your headlights and begin blinking them and blow your horn at the same time to attract attention and help.

Also

- Avoid carrying cash. Use debit cards and checks whenever you can. Carry only those credit cards that are necessary.

Contact the Sugar Land Police Department's Crime Prevention Office at 281-275-2575 with any questions about these tips or how to prevent crime from occurring.



Fiscal Year 2004-2005: Where Does Your Money Go?

Sugar Land's new fiscal year began Oct. 1, 2004 and ends Sept. 30, 2005. The City's adopted budget for the fiscal year is \$116.5 million. The budget is made up of major operating funds, such as the General Fund, the Debt Service Fund, the Utility Fund, the Airport Fund and the Capital Improvements Fund.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund that provides more traditional City services. The fund totals \$38 million, approximately equivalent to \$1055 spent per single-family household. The average resident pays approximately \$256, or 35 percent, of their residential tax bill for General Fund operations. The \$799 difference in these sums is supported by other general revenue sources, including sales tax, building permits and traffic fines.

As shown in the General Fund expenditures graph, public money collected by the City is spent in eight categories: Debt Service, General Government, Fiscal Services, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Development Services, Police and Fire. In upcoming newsletters, we will focus on these and other City departments and funds. This issue details General Fund spending for Public Safety.

Police and Fire—together known as Public Safety—account for 47 percent of

the total General Fund expenditure. Both provide services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. How does the public's money in the General Fund help Sugar Land become the safest city in the area?

Police Department

The Police Department employs 159 full-time equivalent sworn and civilian personnel. Its budget of \$11 million provides services that are aimed at reducing crime and improving public safety by enforcing the laws, solving problems, providing for crime prevention education and partnering with citizens on community safety programs.

Sugar Land is divided into four police beats that are covered by specific patrol officers, detectives and crime prevention officers. The department also has specific special units such as the Bicycle Patrol, Traffic

Unit, Hostage Negotiator Team and SWAT. The Police Department also relies on internal support services such as dispatch, evidence and property processing, records and the housing of prisoners. Additionally, Animal Control responds to calls of stray or abused animals, bites or attacks, lost or found pets, and has an Adopt-A-Pet program.

Active partnerships with the community include the Citizens Police Academy, a 14-week course to educate and inform citizens on the operations of the department; Child Safety Seat Checks; House Watch; Neighborhood Watch; and crime prevention tips and seminars. Citizens who are well informed about the resources and services of their Police Department are critical to its success.

Fire Department

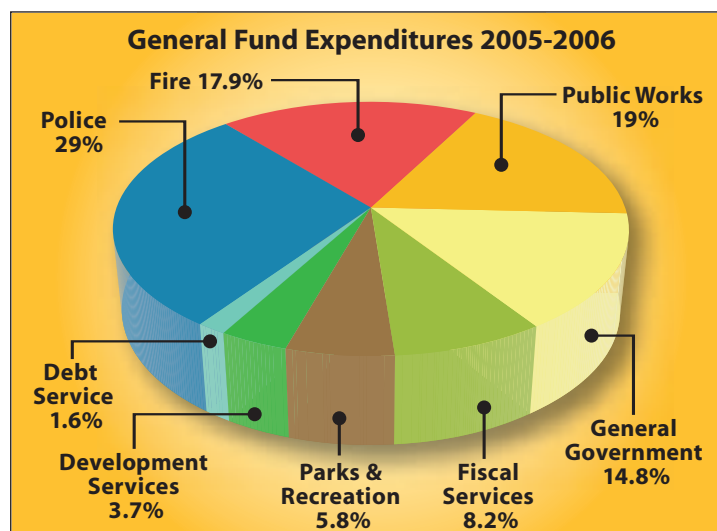
The Fire Department provides Sugar Land with fire and emergency services. It has a budget of \$6.8 million and employs 91 full-time personnel, excluding Fire Station 6, which is not yet within the City limits. Communities in Sugar Land's Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction purchased the land, paid for construction of the station and pay the salaries of 12 firefighters assigned to that station.

The Fire Department has four major divisions: Administration, Operations, Prevention/Investigation and Emergency Management.

Operations provides for first response to emergency medical services, fires, explosions, hazardous material incidents and other catastrophic occurrences, as well as mutual aid to our surrounding neighbors.

Prevention/Investigation provides for fire investigation and fire inspection services. Public Education informs Sugar Land residents and businesses about fire prevention topics such as home inspections; CPR, first aid and infant and child safety; fire extinguisher training; and fire station tours.

Emergency Management coordinates mitigation preparation, response and recovery activities, as well as training and educating residents in natural and man-made emergencies.



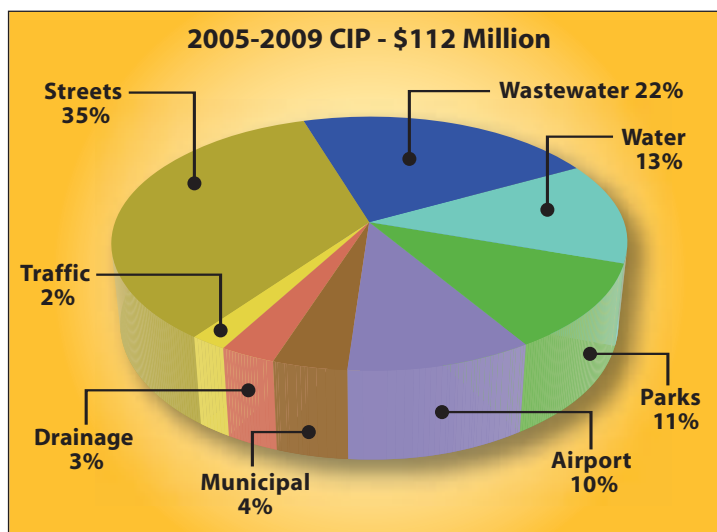
Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan: We Need Your Input

The Capital Improvement Plan provides a schedule and funding projection for the City's capital improvements for the next five years. Capital improvements are typically additions or upgrades to the City's public infrastructure. They include new or improved City buildings, streets, utilities and parks.

The 2005-2009 CIP totals \$112 million. As shown in the graph, streets and water/wastewater improvements make up the majority of projects.

The 2005-2009 Capital Improvement Plan includes:

- New terminal building and replacement T-hangers at Sugar Land Regional Airport
- Drainage improvements in Brookside/Belknap subdivisions; Ditch "H" and Brooks Lake diversion widening; additional storm sewer tie-ins to Eldridge Road
- Fire Station 1 replacement
- Park and Recreation improvements: Brazos



River Corridor, Recreation Center, Park land acquisition

- Street improvements: City participation in U.S. 90A expansion and U.S. 59 expansion; Alkire Drive, Lakeview Drive, Mayfield Park, Main and Wood Street reconstruction; pavement rehabilitation; Burney Road improvements and widening
- Water improvements: Woodchester Water Plant replacement, elevated storage tank, South System improvements, water

main rehabilitation

- Wastewater improvements: wastewater flow diversion, Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion, Wastewater Treatment Plant rehabilitation, wastewater system rehabilitation

The CIP is revised every year to accommodate new projects and reflect changes in ongoing projects and needs. Here's the process: (1) Projects are identified through a variety of sources, including citizen and homeowner association input.

(2) Projects are prioritized by year, cost estimates are assigned and funding sources are identified and developed. (3) The draft CIP is reviewed by various board and commissions, economic development corporations and City management. (4) After City Council reviews the draft CIP, any recommended changes are incorporated into the final document. (5) The first year of the plan is incorporated into the City's annual budget and project plans implemented. (6) Years 2-5 are for planning purposes only and do not receive funding.

We invite resident input on the 2006-2010 Capital Improvements Plan. If you know of a capital improvement need, please go to www.sugarlandtx.gov, click on City Services and then on Capital Improvement Projects. From here, you can review projects and submit your suggestions. Call 281-275-2450 to learn more about the CIP.

2004 Property Tax Payments Are Due

Sugar Land property tax bills were mailed Oct. 25, 2004. The deadline for taxpayer payments is Jan. 31, 2005. Residents who pay taxes by Dec. 31 are allowed to deduct the payments from federal income taxes. Taxes become delinquent if not paid

before Feb. 1, 2005. At that time, penalty and interest accrue at the following rates:

Feb.: 7%
March: 9%
April: 11%
May: 13%
June: 15%
July: 18%

August and thereafter: add 1% per month.

Mail early to ensure a timely postmark. Payments by mail are credited according to the U.S. postmark, not the metered date. Payments bearing postmarks past the deadline will incur

full penalty and interest charges. Payments can be mailed to City of Sugar Land, P.O. Box 5029, Sugar Land, TX 77487-5029. You may also pay in person at Sugar Land City Hall, 2700 Town Center Boulevard North.

continue Property Tax page 10

Taxes from page 9

Tax bills requested by mortgage companies or lending institutions will be mailed directly to them. There are occasions when mortgage companies do not request a tax bill; when this occurs, the tax bill will be

mailed directly to the property owner. If you should receive a tax bill but your mortgage company pays property taxes on your home out of an escrow account, write your mortgage loan number on the bill and forward it to them immediately.

Taxpayers who qualify for the age 65 and older or disabled persons exemptions may pay current taxes in four installments. You must pay at least one-fourth of your taxes before the Feb. 1 delinquency date. The remaining payments are due before April 1,

June 1 and Aug. 1, without any penalty or interest. Please indicate with your first payment that you are paying your home taxes in installments.

Contact the tax office at 281-275-2750 with questions about your property taxes.



SERVICES

Capital Improvement Program Successes in 2004

Several important Capital Improvement Program projects were initiated and/or completed by Sugar Land in 2004:

- **Phase II improvements to Imperial Park** girls' softball complex will be completed by the end of the year. The project consists of the refurbishment of four full-size softball fields and one T-ball field with new fencing, lighting concession stand and expanded parking. As home to the Sugar Land Girls Softball Association, the improvements have made Imperial Park a favorite for softball tournaments for the region and a state tournament is scheduled for 2005.

- **The widening of Ditch H** (visible from U.S. 59 near

Sweetwater Boulevard) is currently underway. Approximately 1.2 million cubic yards of earth will have been moved to accommodate improved drainage. Later phases of the project will begin north of U.S. 59 in 2005.

- **Along the Brazos River Corridor** for nine miles, Sugar Land is planning to create conservation and recreational opportunities to be built in multiple phases. In 2004, the City completed preliminary planning for the entire project and for the design of first phase—a 420-acre park bounded by the Brazos River, U.S. 59 south, the University of Houston-Sugar Land property and University Boulevard. The first phase will focus on lake develop-

ment, improvements near the south entrance, and park improvements such as trails, picnic facilities, playground, multi-use sports fields, access to the river for canoeing, roads and parking. The proposed schedule is to continue with design through 2005 and to be ready to start construction in 2006.

- **Turn lane improvements** to the Town Center Boulevard/State Highway 6 intersection will be completed by December 2004. The project will improve the mobility of drivers in the First Colony Mall/Town Center retail area.

TRASH SCHEDULE

Trash and Recycling Holiday Schedule

Even with the Christmas Day and New Year's Day holidays coming up, trash and recycling schedules **will not change** in the last two weeks of December. Collection days in January will also be on the regular schedule.

Where To Recycle in the Sugar Land Area

Curbside recycling of paper (not cardboard), aluminum and tin, and code 1 and code 2 plastics is available to Sugar Land residents. What about household hazardous waste, electronics, glass, tires, appliances and other items? Use this guide to Fort Bend County and City of Sugar Land recycling centers to properly dispose of recyclable items.

Fort Bend County Recycling Center • 1200 Blume Road in Rosenberg • 281-633-7576

Household Hazardous Waste Center

Open Mondays 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and first Saturday of the month 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
\$5 fee per 5-gallon size volume of wastes for this service.

Garage/Garden

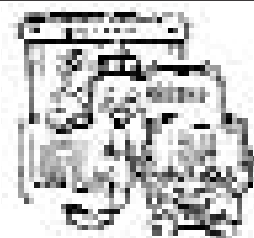
Brake fluid
Herbicides
Pesticides
Rat poison
Pool chemicals

Cleaning

Drain cleaner
Oven cleaner
Tile cleaner
Furniture polish
Metal polish
Bathroom cleaner
Kitchen cleaner

Paint Products

Paint
Thinner
Stripper
Spray cans
Lacquer
Stains
Solvents



Recycling Center • Open daily: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Closed on Sunday and Wednesday

Batteries
Motor oil
Oil filters
Latex paint
Antifreeze

Glass
Transmission oil
Power steering fluid
Cooking oil
Newspaper

Cardboard
White paper
Junk mail
Phone books
Magazines

Plastics code 1 & 2
Aluminum cans
Tires up to 22"
Electronics
Appliances

City of Sugar Land Recycling Center • 113 Gillingham Lane • 281-275-2450
Open 24 hours, 7 days a week

Accepted Items

Paper and cardboard items (no pizza boxes)
Brown and clear glass (no lids or foil labels)
Tires (maximum of 4, no rims), drop off at 111 Gillingham Lane during business hours

Recycle Your Christmas Tree

“Oh Christmas tree, Oh Christmas tree, how great it is to recycle thee.”

If recycling your Christmas tree is holiday music to your ears, mark your calendar now. Curbside collection of trees will take place on Wed., Dec. 29; Wed., Jan. 5; and Sat., Jan. 8. Have your trees at the curb by 7 a.m. for collection. Trees must be free of all ornaments, tinsel, trimmings, metal tree stands and plastic tree sacks in order to be recycled. Flocked trees cannot be recycled and must be disposed of with other residential waste. Christmas trees set out on any other collection day will be taken to the landfill.

Christmas trees can also be dropped off for recycling at First Colony Park, 3232 Austin Parkway, or Eldridge

Park, 2511 Eldridge Road, between Mon., Dec. 27 and Fri., Jan 7.

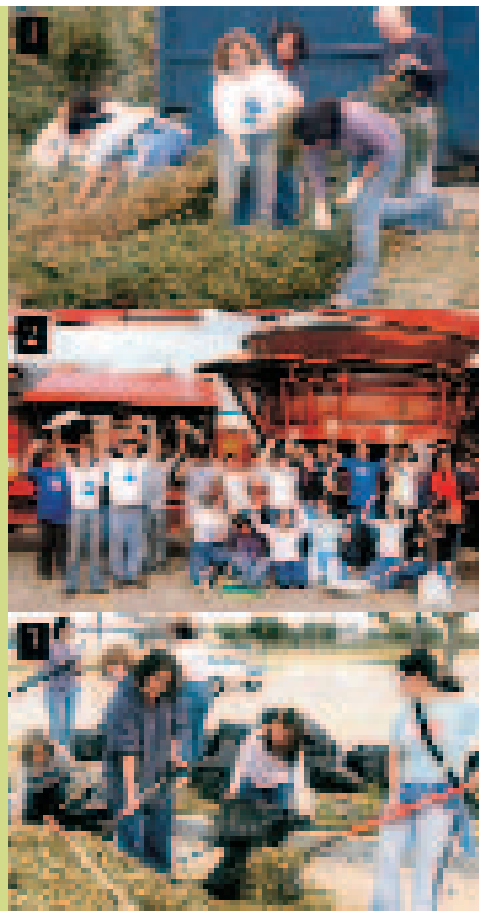
On Sat., Jan. 8, the trees will be ground into mulch, which will be given away free at Eldridge Park between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., or until gone. Sugar Land will provide residents with bags of mulch, which may be limited per resident depending on the number of trees recycled. Residents may also request that one backhoe bucket of mulch be directly loaded onto a truck or trailer.

For more information on Christmas tree recycling, please call 281-275-2450 or e-mail solidwaste@sugarlandtx.gov.

Note: Information not valid for non-City subdivisions that may receive this newsletter.

How it's done

In January 2004, volunteers prepared the trees (1), which were then loaded into the tub grinder and recycled into mulch (2). The mulch was bagged by volunteers and given away to Sugar Land residents (3).



Highway Construction Begins in Sugar Land

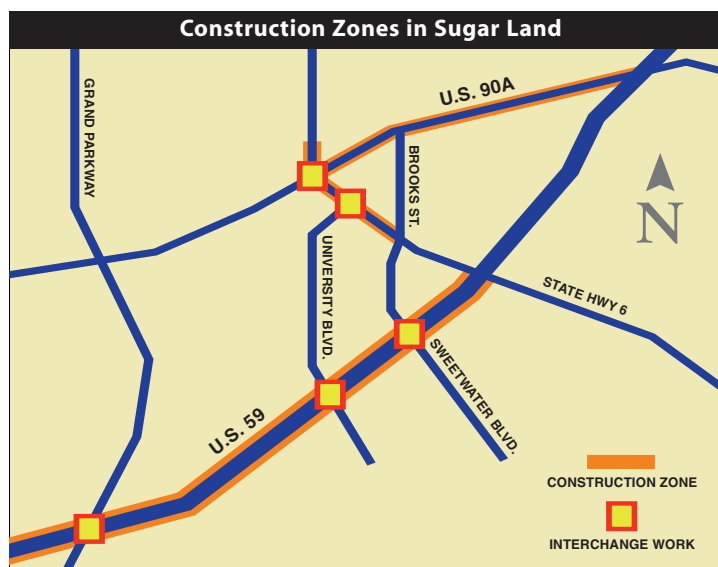
Four Texas Department of Transportation projects on the major highways through Sugar Land are scheduled to start construction by 2005. All projects will improve mobility through Sugar Land. Although these are state-controlled projects, Sugar Land will do whatever possible to facilitate them and help keep our residents and businesses informed.

U.S. 59 Expansion-Phase II

TxDOT will continue improvements that were recently completed on the section of U.S. 59 between U.S. 90A and State Highway 6. Phase II improvements will include eight main lanes, two diamond/HOV lanes and continuous frontage roads, from State Highway 6 to north of the Grand Parkway (State Highway 99). The Sweetwater Boulevard and University Boulevard interchanges will be expanded, resulting in diamond interchanges similar to the existing Williams Trace Boulevard at U.S. 59 interchange, where U.S. 59 main lanes will pass over the cross street. Construction began in August 2004 and is anticipated to take approximately four years to complete.

U.S. 59 Expansion-Phase III

TxDOT will expand the interchange at U.S. 59 and the Grand Parkway. The



U.S. 59 main lanes will pass over the Grand Parkway, resulting in a diamond interchange. Construction is expected to begin in late 2005.

Although U.S. 59 construction will inevitably cause inconveniences to motorists, the good news for U.S. 59 commuters is that TxDOT will maintain the same number of main lanes during peak hours throughout construction. If TxDOT is forced to close an intersection due to the nature of construction, it will do so during non-peak hours. The only exception to this is the closure of the Sweetwater Boulevard and University Boulevard interchanges, which will be closed for two to three weeks to traffic desiring to cross U.S. 59. This closure is necessary while the new U.S. 59 bridge is constructed over the cross street. University Boulevard will be reconstructed first.

This closure could happen as early as 2005 but will likely take place in early 2006.

Demolition of the existing bridges at the interchanges will not take place during the holiday season (Thanksgiving through New Year's Day).

Diamond interchanges will be constructed on U.S. 59 at the Sweetwater Boulevard, University Boulevard and the Grand Parkway interchanges. These interchanges, which are similar to the existing Williams Trace Boulevard interchange with U.S. 59, are more efficient than the current interchanges. Where Sweetwater Boulevard and University Boulevard meet U.S. 59, the highway main lanes will be routed on an overpass with the frontage roads at ground level.

New U.S. 59 frontage road bridges will be built over the Brazos River,

which will greatly improve traffic flow and benefit motorists during an emergency situation on the main lanes of U.S. 59.

State Highway 6/U.S.90A Expansion

TxDOT will expand State Highway 6 from First Colony Boulevard/Brooks Street to north of U.S. 90A. Main lanes of State Highway 6 will pass over University Boulevard, U.S. 90A and the railroad, with frontage roads at ground level. Construction is expected to begin in February 2005 and to take approximately three years. Rerouting State Highway 6 main lanes to pass over University Boulevard, U.S. 90A and the railroad will allow heavy traffic along State Highway 6 to bypass these intersections and avoid delays at the railroad as well.

U.S. 90A Expansion

TxDOT will expand U.S. 90A from four to eight lanes from U.S. 59 to State Highway 6. Pending any unforeseen delays, construction is expected to begin during the summer of 2005.

U.S. 90A is being built to accommodate a future quiet zone. Sugar Land is working with Union Pacific Railroad, the Federal Railroad Administration, TxDOT and other groups in an effort to silence train horns along U.S. 90A.

This effort is expected to greatly benefit residents near U.S. 90A, but significant coordination from many agencies is necessary, and this plan will require several years to complete.

Sugar Land's Urban Beautification Policy also plays a role in the aesthetics

of road construction. City personnel worked with TxDOT to establish common aesthetic themes such as ornamental signal and illumination poles, ornamental overhead sign columns, ornamental bridge abutment columns, ornamental bridge support columns and

attractive retaining walls and landscaping. Residents can already enjoy many of these common aesthetic features on the completed section of U.S. 59. These features will be continued in the upcoming expansions on U.S. 59, State Highway 6 and U.S. 90A.

Highway Updates

Call Highway Hotline
281-276-9959

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Visit www.sugarlandtx.gov

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CALENDAR

	DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
DEC	24	City of Sugar Land offices closed		
	31	City of Sugar Land offices closed		
JANUARY	3	Regular Solid Waste Collection		
	4 • 18 • 25	City Council	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
	7	City Hall Dedication	3 - 7:30 p.m.	City Hall
	8	Christmas Tree Mulch	11 a.m.-3 p.m.	Eldridge Park
	11 • 27	Planning & Zoning Commission	7 p.m.	City Hall
	17	Martin Luther King Jr. Day (City offices closed)		
	17	Regular Solid Waste Collection		
	18-19	AARP Driver Safety Program	9 a.m.	Police and Municipal Court
	20	Citizen Police Academy Class 35 Begins	7 p.m.	City Hall
	20	HOA/Neighborhood Rep meeting	7 p.m.	City Hall
	22	Green Thumb Tree Care	10 a.m.	Lost Creek Park
FEBRUARY	1 • 15 • 22	City Council	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
	2	Trout Stocking (see page 15)		Eldridge Park
	3	Sugar Land 101 begins	6 p.m.	City Hall
	8 • 24	Planning and Zoning Commision	7 p.m.	City Hall
	11	Daddy/Daughter Date Night	7 p.m.	Sugar Land Community Center
	12	Mommy/Son Date Night	7 p.m.	First Colony Community Center



RECREATION

Eldridge Lake to be Stocked with Rainbow Trout on February 3

If grilled rainbow trout with lemon and pepper makes your mouth water, grab your fishing pole and head to Eldridge Lake. Feb. 3 is the annual trout stocking, supported by Texas Parks and Wildlife. Two thousands fish will be stocked in the lake in Eldridge Park, 2511 Eldridge Road.

A can of corn and simple fishing gear are all anglers of all ages will need to get started. Bobbers or floats are recommended to help indicate when a trout takes the bait. The fish are hatchery raised and they are voracious eaters.

A \$7 Freshwater Trout Stamp and a valid fishing license are required for almost anyone fishing for freshwater trout in Texas. Those exempted from the licensing requirements, including children under 17, are not



Attention anglers: Eldridge Lake's resident perch and catfish will make room on Feb. 3 for 2000 rainbow trout stocked by Texas Parks and Wildlife.

required to have a trout stamp. The freshwater trout stamps are available wherever fishing licenses are sold.

Anglers can keep up to

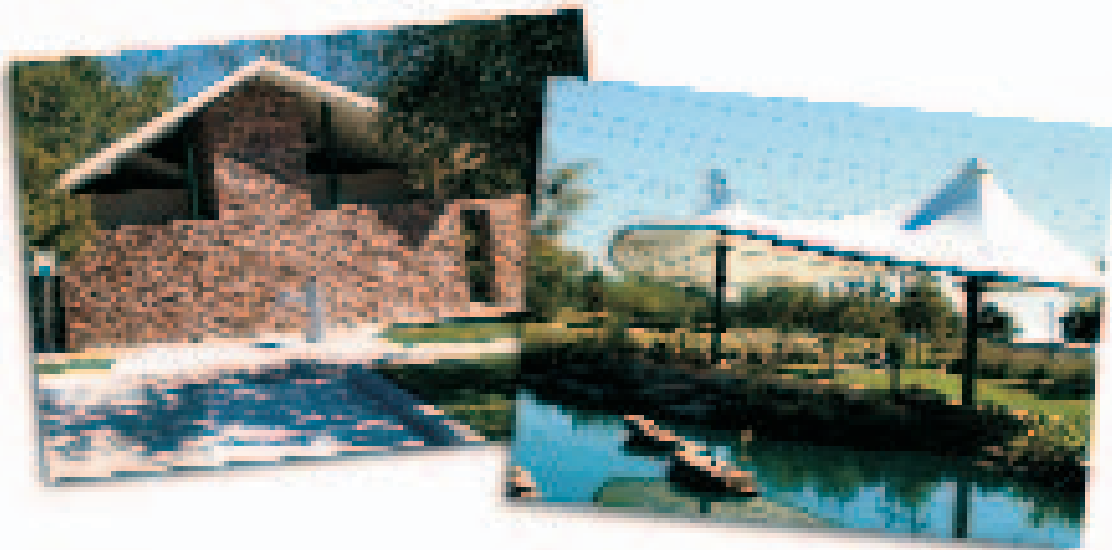
five trout per day. Ideally, the fish should be kept in an ice chest.

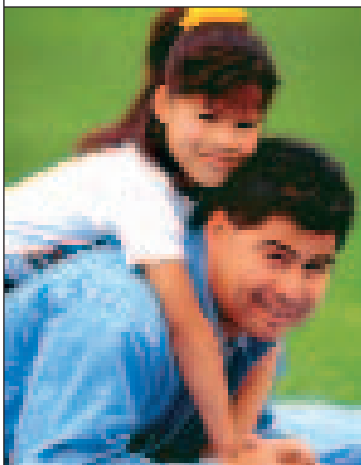
The time of the trout stocking is not determined

until the day before. Call Parks and Recreation at 281-275-2885 on Feb. 2 for more details. Don't let this be the one that gets away!

Park Improvements Add to Comfort and Enjoyment

Recent improvements at Oyster Creek Park give this wonderful park even more amenities! Permanent restroom facilities (left) replaced portable units. A new stage covering (right) accentuates Parks and Recreation's concert series, Red, White & Bluefest and other special events. Additionally, a BMX track offering youngsters and teens another way to stay active outdoors can be found at Lost Creek Park adjacent to Oyster Creek Park.





Two Valentine's Day opportunities give you the chance to share a special evening with children in your family.

Enjoy an evening of refreshments, music and complimentary photos. Both events are for ages 1-14 and are from 7-10 p.m. Admission is free; canned food donations will be accepted for a local charity.

Daddy/Daughter Date Night—Friday, Feb. 11, at Sugar Land Community Center is an opportunity for daddies, granddaddies, big brothers, uncles or cousins to spend time with their daughter, granddaughter, little sister or niece.

Mommy/Son Date Night—Saturday, Feb. 12 at First Colony Community Center is an opportunity for

mothers, grandmothers, big sisters, aunts or cousins to spend time with the little boy in their life.

For more information, call 281-275-2885 or visit Parks and Recreation at 200 Matlage Way.



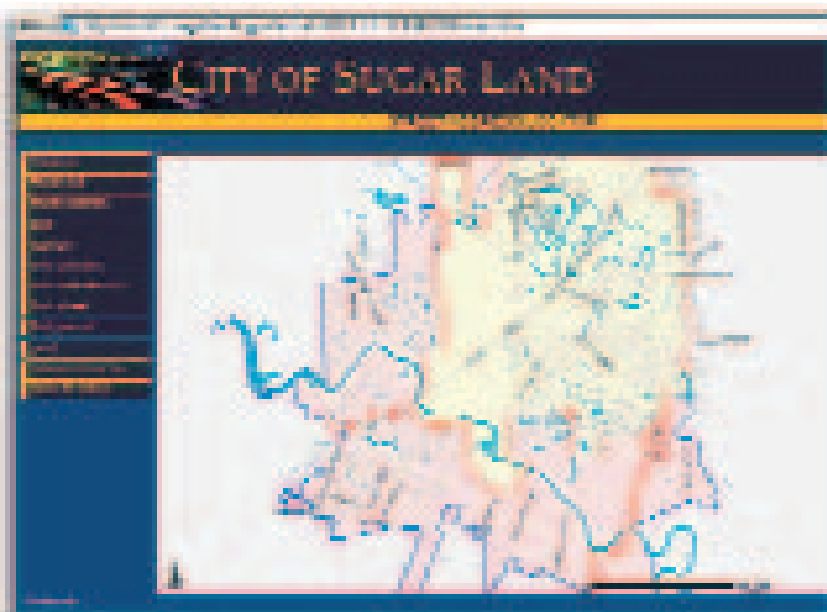
COMMUNITY

Interactive Maps Provide Access to City Data

Sugar Land's Web site—www.sugarlandtx.gov—is the place to find access to interactive City maps. These maps provide the viewer with easy access to City data, such as street and park locations, city boundaries, voting precincts, zoning designations and much more.

When a specific map is selected from the main map page, the menu in the map's left margin provides the user with various viewing options. As a user zooms in to a particular area on a map, additional features and detail will come into view.

Go to www.sugarlandtx.gov and click on E-Gov and then on Interactive Maps. If you need assistance, detect an error or have a specific question, contact the GIS Department at 281-275-2781.



Thanks for Your Interest in Sugar Land 101

Thank you to all who have applied for the Sugar Land 101 class that will begin Feb. 3, 2005. The response to the call for applications has been overwhelming,

with almost twice as many applicants as there are spaces available.

Applicants will be notified by Jan. 1, 2005. If you are not a part of the

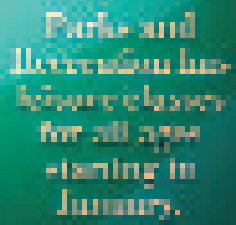
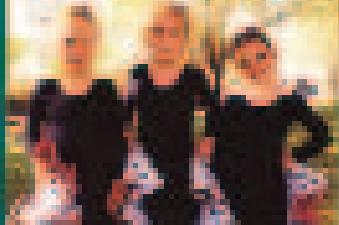
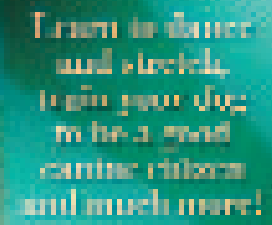
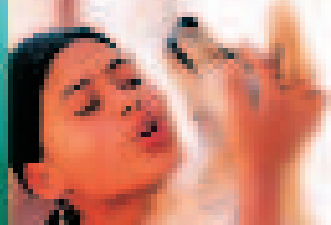
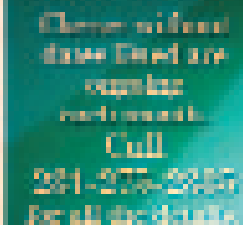
spring class, please apply again. We'll keep you informed about the application dates for all future Sugar Land 101 classes.

Thank you for your

interest in your local government and learning about the City of Sugar Land.



RECREATION

    	<h3>Yoga</h3> <p>Who: Maya Mehta, yoga instructor When: Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:15-6:15 p.m. Dates: Jan. 11- Feb. 17 Where: Sugar Land Community Center Ages: 16-adult Fee: \$75 for two sessions a week per six-week session</p>	<h3>Tai Chi</h3> <p>Who: Donna Kish, certified Tai Chi instructor When: Mondays & Wednesdays Beginner: 9 a.m.-10 a.m. Intermediate: 10 a.m.-11 a.m. Beginner: 5:15-6:15 p.m. Where: Sugar Land Community Center Ages: 14-adult Fee: \$7 per morning class, \$10 per evening class</p>	<h3>Line Dancing</h3> <p>Who: Marietta Stone When: Tuesdays Beginner/Intermediate: 2:30-5:00 p.m. Wednesdays Intermediate/Advanced: 2:00-4:00 p.m. Ages: Adult Fee: \$15 per month or \$4 per class Who: Eugenia Kang When: Wed. 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Ages: Adult Fee: \$15 per month or \$4 per class Where: Sugar Land Community Center</p>	<h3>Ballet Flamenco</h3> <p>Who: Yvonne Robertson When: Mondays Beginner: 4:15-5:15 p.m. Intermediate: 5:20-6:40 p.m. Intermediate II: 6:45 p.m.-8:05 p.m. Where: Lost Creek Community Center Ages: Beginner: 4 yrs & older; Intermediate: 5 yrs & older; Intermediate II: 10 yrs and older Fee: Beginner: \$35 per month, Intermediate & Intermediate II: \$45 per month</p>
<h3>Dog Obedience</h3> <p>Who: Beverly Hebert, dog obedience instructor When: Tuesdays Puppy Preschool and Basic I: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Basic II: 7:30-8:30 p.m. Dates: Jan. 11-Feb. 15 Where: Sugar Land Community Center Ages: 16-adult Fee: each class \$85</p>	<h3>Karate</h3> <p>Who: Bill Gray, Karate instructor When: Tuesdays Beginner: 6-7 p.m., Advanced: 7-8 p.m. Adult: 8-9 p.m. Dates: Jan 11-Mar 29 Where: Eldridge Park Community Center Ages: Beginner: 5-12, Advanced: 5-12, Adult: 13-70 Fee: \$40 per 11 week session; \$30 per uniform (required)</p>	<h3>Jazzercise</h3> <p>Who: Kristi Morris, certified Jazzercise instructor When: Mondays (8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m., 5:40 p.m.) Tuesdays (5:40 p.m.) Wednesdays (8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m., 5:40 p.m.) Thursdays (9:30 a.m., 5:40 p.m.) Fridays (8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m., 5:40 p.m.) Saturdays (8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m.) Where: First Colony Community Center For more information: 281-437-7157, www.fortbendjazz.com</p>	<h3>Fencing</h3> <p>Who: Bayou City Fencing Academy instructors When: Mondays & Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Where: Sugar Land Community Center Ages: 10-adult Fee: \$100 per month</p>	

City of Sugar Land
P.O. Box 110
Sugar Land, TX 77487-0010



City of Sugar Land offices will be closed Dec. 24 and 31 for the holidays. Offices will also be closed Jan. 17 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

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